



HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF MICHIGAN

Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

1. The sponsoring representative's first name:
Phil
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:
Green
3. The cosponsoring representatives' names. All cosponsors must be listed. If none, please type 'n/a.' A signed letter from the sponsor approving the co-sponsorship and a signed letter from the member wishing to co-sponsor are required. Attach letters at question #9 below.
NA
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
Independent Living Alliance
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
51333 Cherry Hill Road, Canton, MI
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:
N/A
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:
Representative Puri – District 24
8. Purpose of the legislatively directed spending item. Please include how it provides a public benefit and why it is an appropriate use of taxpayer funding. Please also demonstrate that the item does not violate Article IV, S 30 of the Michigan Constitution.
Independent Living Alliance (ILA) is developing an intentional community in the Township of Canton to provide individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities a place to live and engage with the greater community. This unique project will not only provide accommodation for fifty residents but ILA has partnered with Special Olympics of Michigan as well as the Therapeutic Recreation group of Canton to ensure that healthy living, wellness activities and special programming is available for the residents and the greater IDD community.
The project will benefit the State of Michigan as it addresses a major housing issue for this underserved population. Further, ILA has offered to provide their project plans with

other groups looking to do similar projects for their special needs loved ones.

9. Attach documents here if needed:

Attachments added to the end of this file.

10. The amount of state funding requested for the legislatively directed spending item.

2500000

11. Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received any of the following types of funding? Check all that apply.

["Private"]

12. Please select one of the following groups that describes the entity requesting the legislatively directed spending item:

Non-profit organization

13. For a non-profit organization, has the organization been operating within Michigan for the preceding 36 months?

Yes

14. For a non-profit organization, has the entity had a physical office within Michigan for the preceding 12 months?

Yes

15. For a non-profit organization, does the organization have a board of directors?

Yes

16. For a non-profit organization, list all the active members on the organization's board of directors and any other officers. If this question is not applicable, please type 'n/a.'

Randal P Leslie, President; David D Ebner, Treasurer; Larry E Ott, Vice President; Daniel S Varner, Secretary; MaryAnn Kanary, Director Please see the Business Plan for additional information on the board members

17. "I certify that neither the sponsoring representative nor the sponsoring representative's staff or immediate family has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the legislatively directed spending item."

Yes, this is correct

18. Anticipated start and end dates for the legislatively directed spending item:

October 1, 2025-September 30, 2026

19. "I hereby certify that all information provided in this request is true and accurate."

Yes


ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS 2024

BUILDING A SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE LIVING COMMUNITY IN SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN FOR ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES, WHERE THEY CAN LIVE SAFELY AMONGST FRIENDS, FEELING EMPOWERED, ACCEPTED, RESPECTED, AND HAPPY.



INDEPENDENT LIVING
— ALLIANCE —





A WORD FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT

AS WE CLOSE OUT 2024, I AM INCREDIBLY PROUD OF ALL THAT WE HAVE ACCOMPLISHED. THANKS TO THE DEDICATION OF OUR VOLUNTEERS, THE GENEROSITY OF OUR DONORS, AND THE STRENGTH OF OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS, WE'VE MADE SIGNIFICANT STRIDES TOWARD OUR GOAL OF CREATING AN INTENTIONAL COMMUNITY IN CANTON FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.

THIS YEAR HAS BEEN MARKED BY REMARKABLE PROGRESS. WE SECURED OUR FUTURE SITE, FINALIZED THE LAND PURCHASE, AND NAVIGATED ZONING APPROVALS. WE LAUNCHED IMPACTFUL FUNDRAISING INITIATIVES, RAISED CRUCIAL FUNDS, FORGED VALUABLE PARTNERSHIPS, AND STRENGTHENED OUR INTERNAL STRUCTURE THROUGH STRATEGIC ADDITIONS TO OUR BOARD.

THESE ACHIEVEMENTS ARE A DIRECT RESULT OF OUR COLLECTIVE EFFORTS AND SHARED VISION. EVERY CONTRIBUTION HAS BROUGHT US CLOSER TO OUR GOAL.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2025, WE'RE FILLED WITH EXCITEMENT. WITH OUR SITE SECURED, WE'RE POISED TO BEGIN CONSTRUCTION—A MONUMENTAL STEP FORWARD.

ON BEHALF OF THE ILA BOARD, I OFFER MY SINCERE GRATITUDE TO EVERYONE WHO HAS SUPPORTED US. YOUR BELIEF IN OUR MISSION FUELS OUR PROGRESS. WITH YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT, WE'RE CONFIDENT THAT 2025 WILL BRING EVEN GREATER ACHIEVEMENTS AS WE BUILD A BRIGHTER, MORE INCLUSIVE FUTURE.

WITH SINCEREST GRATITUDE,

RANDAL P. LESLIE

ILA BOARD PRESIDENT

THANK YOU!



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Land Acquisition and Site Approval

A major milestone was achieved with the successful purchase of 4.6 acres of land at 51333 Cherry Hill in Canton, MI.

This site has received site approval from Canton Township, including a necessary zoning change, and will be the future home of ILA's residential complex.

Strategic Partnerships

ILA established incredibly valuable partnerships with key organizations, including fully executed agreements with Special Olympics of Michigan and Canton Township's Therapeutic Recreation Division.

These partnerships will provide invaluable resources, programming, and support for our future residents, contributing to healthy and active lifestyles and lifelong learning opportunities.

Fundraising Success

In 2024, ILA raised over \$250,000 towards the purchase of the property, demonstrating strong community support for our vision. This included a particularly successful year-end fundraising campaign, the "60/60 Initiative."

This effort secured a matching donation program, enabling us to double our fundraising over 60 days in November and December. Through the dedicated efforts of our volunteer committee and board members, we successfully raised more than the target which was matched by a private donation, effectively totaling \$205,000.



ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ILA has focused on strengthening its organizational infrastructure through several key initiatives:

Michigan Nonprofit Association (MNA) Membership: We became a member of MNA, gaining access to grant opportunities, discounted services (including retirement plans, group benefits, job postings, HR services, and more), networking and educational opportunities, and public policy advocacy.

Sub-Committee Formation: We successfully formed volunteer sub-committees focused on fundraising, local community outreach, public relations, and corporate outreach, enhancing our capacity in these critical areas.

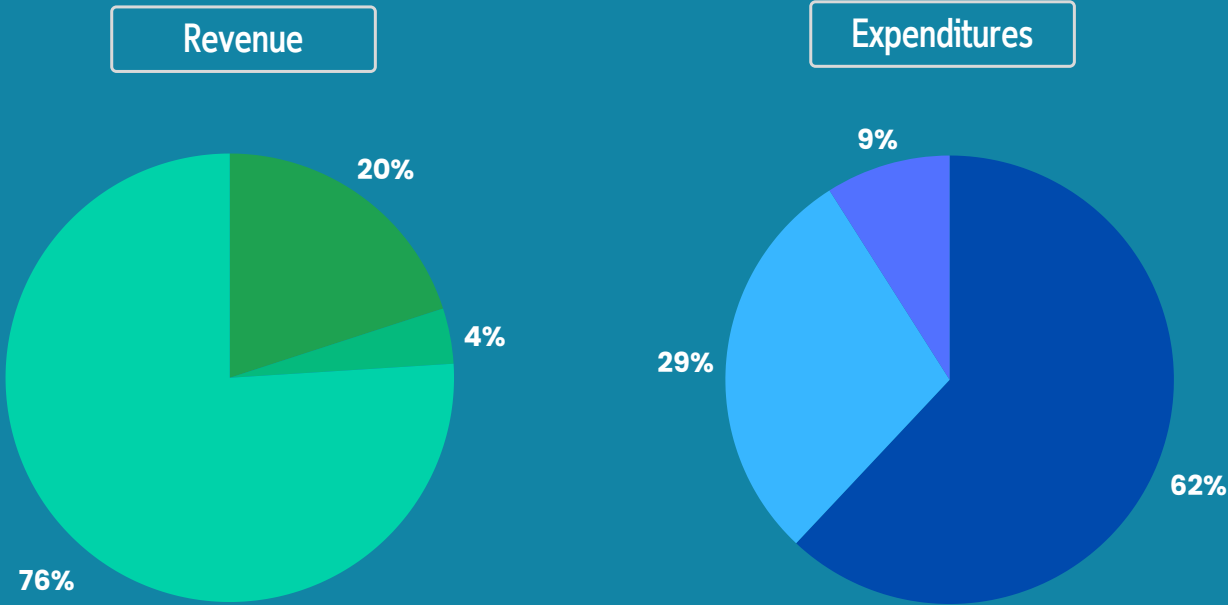
Professional Grant Writing: ILA secured a contract with a professional grant writer, resulting in the development of essential organizational documents that will support our long-term fundraising efforts.

Enhanced Online Presence: We have continued to develop our website and expand our social media presence, increasing our reach and impact within the community.

Path to Construction: With the land secured and significant fundraising completed, ILA is on track to begin construction of our residential complex in 2025. This marks a significant step towards realizing our vision of creating a supportive and inclusive community for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



2024 Financial Overview

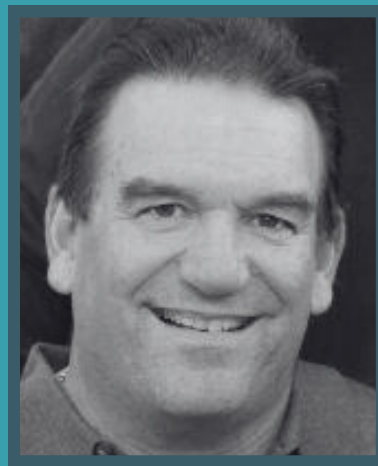
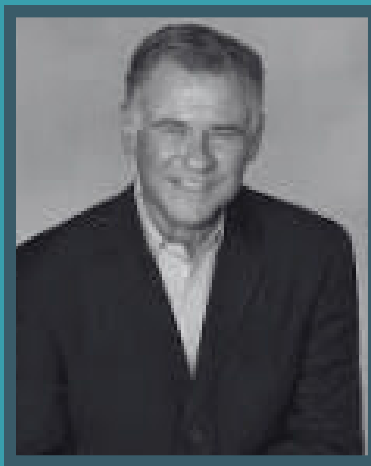


Total Funds Raised to Date: \$787,239

\$10,000	Foundation Awards	\$10,800	Legal & Accounting Costs
\$52,500	Corporate Gifts	\$33,500	Due Diligence (Engineering/Architecture)
\$206,500	Individual Donations	\$72,380	Fund Development
\$269,000	TOTAL	\$116,680	TOTAL

CONSTRUCTION BUDGET	AMOUNT
Land & Zoning	\$600,000
Construction Costs	\$10,006,908
Soft Costs	\$1,156,658
Kitchen/Common Area	\$1,000,000
TOTAL COSTS	\$12,763,566





BOARD EXPANSION

Talented professionals, Daniel Varner and MaryAnn Kanary joined President, Randal P. Leslie, Vice-President, Larry Ott, and Treasurer, David Ebner on ILA's Executive Board, bringing valuable expertise and experience to our leadership team.

DANIEL VARNER

Varner joined as Secretary in November. As President and CEO of Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit, former program officer at the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, and founder/CEO of Think Detroit, he brings decades of experience in nonprofit leadership and community development. Recognized by two Presidential administrations for his contributions, his expertise in strategic planning, financial management, and program development is invaluable to ILA's growth.

MARYANN KANARY

Kanary is a graduate of the University of Michigan and Harvard Law School, bringing extensive experience in legal, compliance, and strategic leadership across multiple industries. Her background in complex negotiations, risk management, and corporate governance provides high-level legal and business expertise to ILA, aligning perfectly with the organization's short- and long-term goals.

Looking Ahead

ILA'S VISION IS TO DEVELOP A 40-UNIT ACCESSIBLE APARTMENT COMPLEX IN CANTON'S VIBRANT CHERRY HILL VILLAGE DISTRICT. DESIGNED WITH UNIVERSAL DESIGN PRINCIPLES, THIS PROJECT ADDRESSES THE CRITICAL NEED FOR INCLUSIVE HOUSING IN SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN.

WE PLAN TO BEGIN CONSTRUCTION IN 2025 AND CELEBRATE OUR GRAND OPENING IN LATE FALL 2027. WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR CANTON TOWNSHIP'S RECENT \$9.5 MILLION REINVESTMENT IN THE AREA, WHICH ALIGNS PERFECTLY WITH OUR MISSION TO ENHANCE COMMUNITY LIFE AND UNDERSCORES THEIR COMMITMENT TO INCLUSION.

ILA'S INITIATIVE WILL PROVIDE CRUCIAL SUPPORT TO INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES THROUGH ACCESSIBLE HOUSING AND VITAL SUPPORTIVE SERVICES, EMPOWERING THEM TO LIVE INDEPENDENTLY AND PARTICIPATE FULLY IN THEIR COMMUNITIES. WE BELIEVE EVERYONE DESERVES THE OPPORTUNITY TO THRIVE.

WE ARE DEEPLY PROUD TO SHARE OUR SIGNIFICANT STRIDES, EMPHASIZING OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS, PARTNERSHIPS, AND PLANS TO DEMONSTRATE OUR VIABILITY AND POTENTIAL. TOGETHER, WE ARE BUILDING A MORE INCLUSIVE FUTURE WHERE EVERYONE BELONGS.



INDEPENDENT LIVING ALLIANCE

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